

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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64

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03 EB-07 SCA-01 /038 W

----- 087614

R 160137Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6650

AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 5281

REF: A. PORT MORESBY 805

B. TAIPEI 4870

1. ON AUGUST 15 EMBOFF CALLED ON MOFA DEPARTMENT OF EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR CHOU TUNG-HUA AND GAVE HIM THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTEL. CHOU EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION AND SAID HE WOULD TRANSMIT THE INFORMATION TO APPROPRIATE GROG AUTHORITIES.

2. FYI: WE HAVE LEARNED FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE TAIWAN PROVINCIAL FISHING BUREAU THAT DISCUSSIONS ARE STILL CONTINUING BETWEEN THE BUREAU AND THE OWNERS OF THE SHIPS WHOSE CREWS ARE STRANDED IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA (PNG) TERRITORY. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE OWNER OF THE SHIP WHOSE CREW IS STRANDED ON MARON ISLAND PLANS TO SEND ANOTHER SHIP THERE TO PICK UP THE CREW. END FYI.

3. FOR DEPARTMENT: WE NOTE IN PARA 9 OF REFTEL THAT THE PNG DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND TRADE (DFRT) HAS ASKED THAT THE QUESTION OF THE STRANDED TAIWANESE FISHERMEN BE "HANDLED" BY EMBASSY TAIPEI. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THE PRESSING NATURE OF THE PROBLEM POSED BY THE FISHERMEN, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE FOR A USG ENTITY TO ACT AS AN AGENT FOR PNG IN THIS STRICTLY BILATERAL MATTER.

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4. IF IT IS NOT FEASIBLE FOR THE PNG GOVERNMENT TO

COMMUNICATE BY COMMERCIAL CABLE DIRECTLY WITH ROC  
AUTHORITIES, THE EMBASSY WOULD BE WILLING TO CONTINUE TO  
SERVE AS "POSTMAN". HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY  
IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE ACTING AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
PNG GOVERNMENT, EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT AMCONSUL PORT  
MORESBY ASK THE DFRT TO PROVIDE A WRITTEN TEXT OF ANY  
FUTURE MESSAGES IT WISHES US TO CONVEY TO THE GROC.  
AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY SHOULD THEN CABLE THE VERBATIM  
TEXT TO EMBASSY TAIPEI, WHICH WILL PASS THE TEXT TO MOFA.

5. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON THE ABOVE.  
UNGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPATRIATION, POLICIES, FISHERMEN  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ellisoob  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 PORT MORESBY 805  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ellisoob  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by ellisoob>  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CHOU TUNG-HUA TALKS  
**TAGS:** PBOR, PP, AS, TW, (CHOU TUNG-HUA)  
**To:** STATE PORT MORESBY  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006